

GENERAL WAIVER COVER SHEET
CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
JUNE 2003 AGENDA
Item No. WC-1

TITLE: Request by various districts to waive <i>Education Code</i> (EC) Section 51451, regarding the method of qualifying this years high school seniors for a Golden State Seal Merit Diploma.	<div><div>_____</div><div>ACTION</div></div> <div><div>_____</div><div>INFORMATION</div></div> <div><div>_____</div><div>PUBLIC HEARING</div></div> <div><div><u> x </u></div><div>CONSENT</div></div>
CDSIS: Various—list of districts will be provided as a last minute item in blue.	

RECOMMENDATION:

The Department recommends:

☒ **Approval, on the condition that the districts have certified that all students submitted to Education Data Systems, Inc. (EDS, Inc.) have met either the existing requirements to be eligible for the Golden State Merit Seal Diploma, or the requirements of the 2003 Senior Waiver**

Summary of Previous State Board of Education Discussion and Action:

In January 2003, the CDE posted a waiver process for a waiver of **English language arts Golden State Exam (GSE) requirement**, because at the time this was the only exam not available to this years seniors. **The 13 districts submitted a waiver on these earlier waiver forms.**

The current year budget act then eliminates all the other GSE administration for this year. At the April 9, 2003, State Board of Education (SBE) meeting members approved the method described by the California Department of Education for a Golden State Exam “Senior Waiver Process.”

Summary of Key Issue(s):

The Education Code involved in this waiver is:

E.C 51451. A student who meets the following requirements shall qualify for a Golden State Seal Merit Diploma:

(a) The completion of all requirements for a high school diploma.

(b) A demonstration of the mastery of the curriculum in at least six subject matter areas, four of which shall be mathematics, English language arts, science, and United States history, with the remaining two subject matter areas selected by the student.

The 2003 Senior Waiver criteria are described on the attached “sample” certification, and all districts making a request this time have certified to submit only names of students who have met the requirements of EC 51451, or the 2003 Senior Waiver.